IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/711,717

Art Unit: 1762

Applicant: Yamasaki et al.

Title: METHOD FOR FORMING A PASSIVATED METAL LAYER

Attorney Docket: **RAJ-025** Confirmation No.: 5716

> July 24, 2006 Cincinnati, OH

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Remarks:

Sir:

<u>AMENDMENT - AFTER NON-FINAL REJECTION</u>

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed March 22, 2006. The Examiner has indicated that claims 1, 8-19 and 21-23 are pending in the application and are rejected. The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

> Amendments to the Specification: None

Amendments to the Claims: Pages 2-6

Amendments to the Abstract: None

Amendments to the Drawings: None Pages 7-11

Attachments: None